Damage caused to Horticulture in Orissa

2319. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any estimate on the damage caused to horticulture by recent cyclone in Orissa;

(b) if so, the estimated losses and the steps taken to help the farmers to compensate their losses and to develop the horticulture; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) According to the assessment of a central team, which visited Orissa on 19-20 November, 1999, various horticultural crops have been affected to the following extent in the wake of the cyclone:—

	Damaged Area (Hectare)
1. Coconut	24,170
2. Cashew	31,842
3. Banana	9,993
4. Papaya	7,480
5. Other fruits	44,915
6. Vegetables	48,599
7. Betelvine	1,066

A Calamity Relief Fund allocation of Rs. 56.67 crores is available for relief and rehabilitation measures in various sectors including horticulture. An amount of Rs. 500 crores has been released from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) also on ad-hoc basis for relief and rehabilitation measures.

Rs. 11.00 crores has been released as additional assistance under various central schemes for horticulture development for rehabilita-

tion of horticulture crops damaged due to cyclone in Orissa. Rs. 8.07 crores has also been released from the allocation for the year 1999-2000 under these schemes.

Visit of World Bank Team to Orissa

2320. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank Team visited Orissa to assess cyclone damage;

(b) whether the World Bank Team has submitted the report in that regard;

(c) if so, the estimated damage assessed by the World Bank Team;

(d) the reaction of Government thereto;

(e) the assistance extended to the State Government by the Centre or World Bank thereof; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The World Bank Team has not yet made any exact estimate of the damage nor finalised details of their assistance.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Changes in Agriculture Insurance Scheme

2321. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Andhra Pradesh Government regrding changes in the proposed Agricultural Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the proposal is under consideration of Government?